

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2011



MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER

THE MUHL TIMES

[www.muhsdk12.org](http://www.muhsdk12.org)

## Welcome Back!!

We would like to welcome everyone back for another exciting school year at MEC! Classrooms look great and teachers have been working extremely hard in preparing to provide an optimal education to each and every student that enter our doors each day.

We would also like to thank you in advance for partnering with us to make MEC the foundation for learning and growing for all of our students.

Please take advantage of our district and school websites as a source of information regarding your child's school and school district. Important information such as school menus, dates of special events and early dismissals, and teacher web pages can be found throughout the website.

If we can assist you at any time this school year, please let us know! With the strong bond of school and community, Muhlenberg Elementary Center will be THE place for learning and growing in 2011-2012. Best of luck for a wonderful school year!

## Dismissal Procedures at MEC

At Muhlenberg Elementary Center, the safety of the students is and always will be our top priority. To ensure the safety of our students at dismissal, we are asking for your help and cooperation whether your child is a walker, parent pick-up, or bus student.

Any changes in a child's transportation must be provided to the MEC office in writing prior to 2:30 p.m. during that school day. For all other dismissal procedures, please refer to the Handbook for Students and Parents that was sent home with your child, or call us (610-921-8028) with any questions or concerns.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support!

## Information Regarding Head Lice

As per recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the PA Department of Health and the National Association for School Nurses, routine screening in schools for head lice has not been proven to have a significant effect on decreasing the incidence of head lice and is not shown to be cost effective. Head lice are not a public health risk and they do not transmit any disease. Therefore, exclusion from school upon the discovery of head lice is strongly discouraged.

Routine screening of class rooms for head lice is not done in Muhlenberg School District. Parents/guardians will be notified immediately by phone and letter if their child is found to have an active head lice infestation (live lice).

For your reference, the following steps will be taken in the event of the discovery of head lice at MEC:

1. If a student shows possible symptoms of head lice such as severe itching of the scalp, neck or ear area or "dandruff like" particles or "bugs" are seen on hair and scalp that student will be sent to the nurse to be checked for head lice.
2. If the school nurse finds positive evidence of active head lice infestation the parent/ guardian will be notified by phone and letter. The parent will have the option of picking their child up from school at that time or they may begin treatment after school hours.
3. Parents/guardians will be counseled about treatment choices, treatment procedure and household clean up measures to eradicate the problem in the home. Many parents/guardians have never seen head lice and their eggs. Parents/guardians will be encouraged to come to the health room so that they can be shown an actual head louse and head lice eggs (nits) in order for them to properly treat their child.
4. When the child returns to school the following day, the child will be checked by the school nurse for live lice. If live lice are found, the parent will be contacted and the nurse will continue to provide guidance to the parent as to how to alleviate the problem. However, the student will be able return to the classroom.
5. Depending on the severity of the infestation the child may be checked daily at the nurse's office until active infestation has been eradicated. The school nurse will continue to assist parents/guardians as needed to help resolve this issue through education and referral to outside agencies as necessary.

## Important Dates

September 2—No School

September 5—No School (Labor Day)

September 20th—Open House Grades 1 and 2—7:00-8:00 p.m.

September 21st—Early Dismissal—11:40 a.m.

September 22nd—Open House Grades 3 and 4—7:00-8:00 p.m.

**MUHLENBERG ELEMENTARY CENTER—610 Sharp Ave. Reading, PA 19605 (610)-921-8028**

**Find us on the web at [http://www.muhsdk12.org/ec\\_home.asp](http://www.muhsdk12.org/ec_home.asp)**